The FLAG

20 pence

THE NEWSPAPER OF THE NATIONAL FRONT

ISSN 0950-2912 No.8. MAY 1987

STANDING UP FOR THE BRITISH PEOPLE

CONGRATULATIONS TO the Birmingham Branch of the National Front. After their campaign last year to stop the naming of the City's streets with such names as Jagmohan Joshi Croft and Sardul Marwa Drive, the council has changed its mind after a deluge of complaints from local residents.

Birmingham NF drew public attention to the council plans of naming streets after obscure coloured immigrants by holding a street naming ceremony themselves. They cemented in a road sign on a new estate calling the road 'Blakelock Croft' after Keith Blakelock the policeman tragically hacked to death by rioters in Tottenham. The council was was livid with their action but the people of Birmingham backed the Front 100% and now the council has backed down.

It's this sort of direct action that has made Birmingham NF a real part of the city's political life. Voters in three wards can show their support for the National Front by supporting their Front candidates.

Make sure you get out and vote for Britain's only patriotic political party if you live in a ward where the National Front are standing.

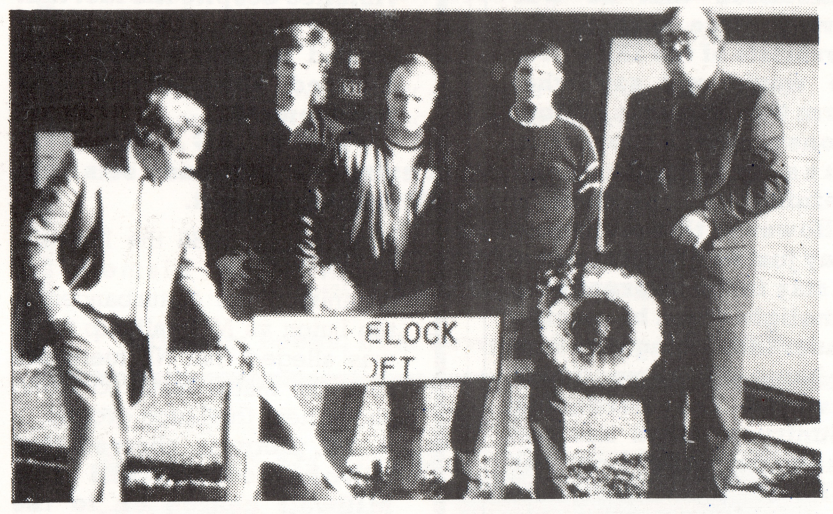
NATIONAL FRONT CANDIDATES

Robert Jones
(Yardley Ward)

John Hill
(Washwood Heath)

Norman Tompkinson
(Chemsley Ward)

FIGHTING BACK FOR BRITAIN!



▪ *Members of Birmingham NF standing up for the people of Birmingham by holding their own street-naming ceremony.*

▪ *Sir Maurice Gibson and his wife – Victims of the Anglo-Irish Agreement*

HANDED OVER TO THE IRA!

Cross-border security exposed as a farce as the Irish Police leave a judge and his wife to the mercy of IRA bombers.

A TRAGIC FARCE is the only way to describe the Anglo-Irish Agreement.

Tragic because of the number of lives lost directly because of that Agreement, and a farce because everyone knew, with the exception of the politicians at Westminster, that allowing Irish politicians to have a say in the affairs of Northern Ireland was like inviting the IRA in on security discussions.

Charles Haughey, the Irish Prime Minister was once charged with gun running for the IRA. Is this the sort of person who should **be privy to the knowledge of** movements of British people known to be on an IRA Death List? Security is about not taking risks, however tiny those risks might be!

The Anglo-Irish Agreement was meant to improve cross border security. Why was it then that Ulster's second most important judge, and a known IRA target was allowed to proceed through 'Nø Man's Land' between Ulster and the South without an escort? Why did the Garda leave Sir Maurice Gibson and his wife without handing them over to the RUC? How were the movements of Sir Maurice known to the IRA?

▪ *Bombings in Ulster have more than doubled in the first 3 months of 1987*

The Anglo-Irish Agreement has increased IRA terrorism. It has increased it because it has given the IRA hope. They see the signs of a British Government capitulating, of a Prime Minster ready to wash her hands of part of Britain and surrender Ulster and its people to the Republic.

The figures speak for themselves. In 1986, between January and March there were 59 shootings in the Province, in 1987 there have been 127. In 1986 there were 23 bombings, in 1987 there have been 50. In 1986 there were 166 armed robberies, in 1987 there have been 254.

The Anglo-Irish Agreement should be scrapped, and the British Government should show the same commitment to defeat the IRA as they showed to defeat the Agentinians in the Falkland Islands. The loyal people of Ulster deserve that same commitment.

BISHOP JOINS FRONT DEMO!

A BISHOP who led a demonstration against the National Front's St.George's Day March in Brierley Hill on 18th April has said he will *join with* a National Front demonstration against the IRA in Birmingham.

The Right Reverend Anthony Dumper, Bishop of Dudley, had claimed that he opposed the NF because he had heard the Party was *'anti-democratic'*. So when the murderers and terrorists of the IRA annouced they were marching in Birmingham, the NF West Midlands Regional Council contacted the Bishop and asked him to join the NF Demonstration.

The Bishop agreed on the proviso that the demonstration is not exclusively National Front.

On May 9th in Birmingham, The Bishop of Dudley, National Front members and supporters, and many hundreds of outraged citizens of the West Midlands will join together to show their opposition to the murderers of the IRA.

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GADDAFI BACKS IRA

ON 11th APRIL Libyan leader, Colonel Gaddafi, announced that he was giving more help to the terrorists of the IRA — but he would not say what form this help was taking: money, moral support or guns, explosives or training.

However this statement may just be a bluff in order to stay in the international limelight when he coming under increasing pressure at home. His army, which invaded the bordering country of Chad has just been defeated and the soldiers are fleeing the country.

A furious Gaddafi has ordered the arrest of senior army officers for this defeat. Meanwhile with shortages of food and clothing he is attempting to halt the growing opposition to his rule by executing opposition leaders.

Gaddafi should go back to looking after his own people instead of supporting terrorist groups and using his troops in foreign imperialist adventures which discredit those good things which he has achieved for the Libyan people.

Still telling lies about the National Front

MEDIA IGNORE THE TRUTH AND CARRY ON SMEARING THE FRONT!

■*NF the scapegoat for the sensless slaughter in Brussels.*

THE MEDIA are still smearing the National Front by attempting to associate the Party with soccer violence despite the fact that Police and the inquiry headed by Justice Popplewell cleared the NF of any involvement.

***The FLAG*, for the umpteenth time sets the record straight.**

● In March 1985 the National Front were blamed for organising the disturbances at the Luton vs Millwall cup tie. It was alleged that NF members after the match attacked Asian shops near the Luton ground.

★ TV pictures showed that black youths led the Millwall charge on to the pitch prior to the end of the match, and an inquiry later revealed that it was West Indian youths who attacked the Asian shops after the match.!

● In April 1985 the National Front were blamed for the disturbances at Birmingham City's ground in their game against Leeds Utd when a young man was killed. Birmingham's newspapers carried front-page stories alleging NF involvement.

★ After studying videos of the disturbance Police issued pictures of the ringleaders of the riot. Four out of the six they wanted to interview were black!

● May 1985 and the nightmare events at the Heysel Stadium led once again to the media headlining National Front involvement. **LABOUR EURO MP FOR BIRMINGHAM GLYN FORD LIED ON TELEVISION WHEN HE SAID THAT 400 NF MEMBERS FROM THE CITY ATTENDED THE MATCH** when in fact local organisers couldn't find one who had attended.

"There is no evidence whatsoever to connect the National Front or any of its members with the events at the Heysel Stadium". *Issued by Liverpool Police July 1985.*

★ Liverpool Police, after intensive investigation issued this statement *"There is no evidence whatsoever to connect the National Front or any of its members with the events at the Heysel Stadium".*

● In March last year Police raided homes in South East England arresting alleged soccer thugs. A Police statement after the raids claimed NF literature was found at these homes.

★ After a complaint by the National Front a police inquiry revealed that once again there was no link whatsoever between the National Front and soccer violence. In a letter to the Chairman of the National Front, Martin Wingfield, the Police Complaints Authority wrote . . .

"The Police Complaints Authority have now considered the report of the police investigation into the complaint you made against officers of the Metropolitan Police in your letter of March 27th 1986 and in your subsequent statement, in which you alleged that the police had been responsible for 'smearing' the National Front through misleading publicity following 'Operation Own Goal'.

. . .the Assistant Commissioner fully accepts that the first press releases issued by the police inadvertently associated your party with soccer violence when there was no evidence to support this view. The Assistant Commissioner proposes to have the police officer with overall responsibility for this matter seen by his Commander and advised about his part in the issues arising from this case. ('Advice' is a police disciplinary term and is taken very seriously by officers).

The Assistant Commissioner has asked us to convey to you his apologies for the failure of the police service to reach the high standard expected of the Force on this occasion.

Each time the National Front has been wrongly accused of involvement in soccer violence. Each time the NF has fought back and cleared its name. When is Fleet Street and the rest of the media going to accept the facts? Or doesn't the truth matter when foreigners like Murdoch and Maxwell are hell bent on smearing a patriotic BRITISH political party?

Nightmare vision for Britain's children

MOST BRITISH people are horrified by a nightmare vision of what the future holds.

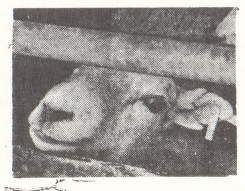
Three-quarters of those questioned in a recent Gallup Poll thought their children's future was either "dismal" or "frightening" and only one in ten saw the future as "exciting and full of opportunity".

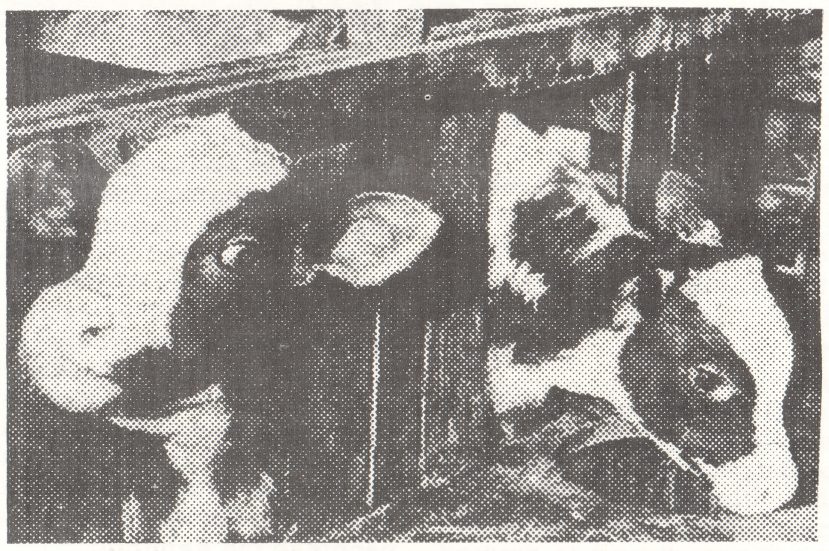
The trouble is of course that most Britons have resigned themselves to their fate. They are in effect, betraying their children by refusing to forge a better future for them.

The British people must realise that they don't have to accept the "dismal" and "frightening" future which successive British Government's are building for them. On the contrary, they have a moral duty to fight for a better future for their children. At the moment all they lack is the courage of their convictions.

In the end they will find the courage they need. When they do they will turn to the National Front in their millions because the National Front **is** the Nation's Courage.

END THIS CRUELTY SOLELY FOR PROFIT





THE GOVERNMENT has admitted that it condones export dealers transporting animals by road for more than 24 hours without food or water. In some of the nightmare journeys the animals die in agony.

The admission came from junior Agriculture Minister, Donald Thompson, who said that drivers are given official discretion not to tend the animals for an unspecified period. Therefore the Government is to take no action over two recent test cases where animals suffered.

Each week thousands of sheep, veal calves and other food animals are crammed into lorries for long journeys to slaughter houses across the Continent. Suffering and death is often the result for the unfortunate animals.

Defending the Government's decision, Mr. Thompson quoted an EEC regulation which allows the cruelty.

He said *"The Government accepts an EEC directive which says that animals may travel for more than 24 hours if the journey can be completed within a reasonable period".*

A spokesman for the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals claimed that, because there is profit in the trade, abuses are allowed to continue.

The National Front agrees with the RSPCA that the export of live food animals should be banned. However, we also want Britain pulled out of the Common Market, the organisation which causes the suffering to happen.

CODS WALLOPED!

A NEW EEC tax could increase the price of fish and chips.

Common Market proposals to tax oils and fats are bound to add to the price of Britain's favourite take-away. Thus, yet another British institution is threatened by EEC intervention.

Is nothing sacred in the eyes of Common Market bureaucrats?

Out of all Britain's political parties only the National Front pledges to get Britain out of the Common Market!

NATIONAL FRONT

Progress Report

A REPORT of the National Front's progress around the country was one of the themes covered in a speech by Joe Pearce to a meeting of Norwich Branch on Thursday April 16th.

During a lively, entertaining and successful meeting Joe also discussed plans for the Party's new Constitution which is due to be debated at the NF's annual conference later in the year.

FIGHTING BACK FOR BRITAIN

Joe Pearce joins our team

■ *Joe Pearce*

JOE PEARCE has joined the staff on *FLAG Newspapers*.

Together with Martin Wingfield and Ian Anderson he will be writing many of the articles and reports that appear in the paper each month.

Joe speciality topics will be the environment and home affairs, as well as writing regularly for the sports page.

Charges dropped against NF Stewards

FOUR NATIONAL Front stewards, arrested and charged at the Greenwich by-election public meeting, arrived at Wells Street Magistrates Court, London W1, on April 21st and 22nd to find that the charges against them had been dropped.

The Police offered no evidence against, John Johnson, Paul Nash, Barry Murphy and Martin French who had been charged with threatening behaviour as they defended the election meeting from a premeditated attack by 30 hand-picked Labour Party thugs.

A inquiry into the whole policing of the meeting and events prior to it is being carried out by Superintendent K.S.Harwood of Catford Police after a complaint made by the National Front.

The Police Complaints Authority have notified the NF that they are supervising the investigation into how, despite a considerable police presence, National Front canvassers and election workers were attacked and in some cases beaten up by a rampaging mob of Asians and Labour Party thugs, and why a senior Police Chief allowed 30 members of that mob into a lawful election meeting where they launched a vicious attack on those attending including women, pensioners and an expectant mother.

NATIONAL FRONT

VOTE ON HANGING

CAPITAL PUNISHMENT and its re-introduction was the topic of debate at a lively meeting of the Brighton Branch of the National Front.

Proposing the return of the death penalty, local Chairman Ted Budden argued the case for, and he was opposed by Branch organiser Ian Taylor.

In a lively and heated debate a number of thought-provoking points were raised, but when it came to the vote not one single person in the audience was in doubt.

This Branch supports the return of the death penalty was passed unanimously.

FIGHTING BACK FOR BRITAIN

SALES LEAGUE

1. **LEEDS(3)**
2. **LAMBETH(1)**
3. **NEWHAM(4)**
4. **Birmingham(2)**
5. **Newcastle(13)**
6. **Coleraine(5)**
7. **Devon(6)**
8. **Cheshire & Wirral(7)**
9. **Richmond(9)**
10. **Croydon(8)**
11. **Brighton(-)**
12. **Medway(10)**
13. **Doncaster(14)**
14. **Haringey(15)**
15. **Portsmouth(18)**
16. **Brierley Hill(-)**
17. **Slough(17)**
18. **Worthing(-)**
19. **Norwich(20)**
20. **Bristol(19)**

(Including orders up to 28th April).

■ **'For England Not Labour'. Says the English Rose banner leading the National Front St. George's Day Parade.**

SINISTER MOVES TO GAG THE NF

But the Front's St. George's Day Parade Tradition is still Mantained.

150 NATIONAL FRONT members from the West Midlands were joined by fifty from other branches to stage the Annual National Front St. George's Day March, on the theme 'British Jobs for British Workers', through Brierley Hill.

An enthusiastic rally after the march heard speeches from John Hill, West Midlands Regional Organiser; Norman Tompkinson, Treasurer, Birmingham Branch; Steve Brady, NF Education and Training Dept.; Joe Pearce, Branch Liaison Dept.; and Andrew Brons, Chairman of the NF Policy Department. A collection was taken and the proceeds put towards equipment for the newly formed West Midlands Pipe and Drum Corps.

A social event was held in the nearby town of Stourbridge after the march and rally.

BEHIND THE SCENES

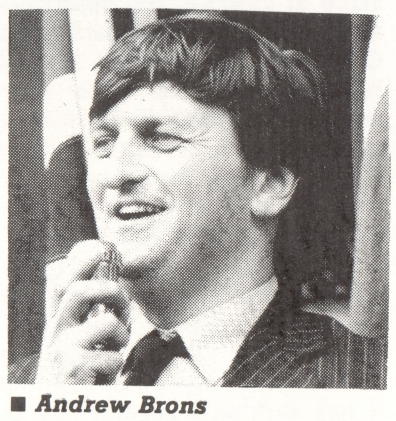
Yes everything went quite well on Saturday April 18th and acknowledgements must be made to the West Midlands NF for organising a successful event.

But behind the successful event for the NF lies sinister government manoeuvring which has all but denied freedom of expression to the National Front.

Complying with the statutes of the new Public Order Act the application for the St George's Day Parade was made four weeks prior to the date of the event by the NF West Midlands Regional Council. A week later, NF National Activities Organiser, Ian Anderson, travelled to Birmingham to see senior police chiefs to discuss the days activities. A route was agreed, the forms signed and arrangements made. Every single police request the National front complied with.

CONCESSIONS

A week prior to the march, Police contacted Mr. Anderson demanding more concessions. They wanted the march to start off at the ridiculous time of 10.30am. Despite the fact all publicity advertising the march had said 2.30pm, in the interests of avoiding a march ban and attempting to make sure the event took place, the NF agreed. The police wanted to shorten the route from a three mile march to a two mile march. After discussion with colleagues, and in the interests of avoiding a march ban and attempting to make sure the event took place, Mr. Anderson agreed.



■ *Andrew Brons*

"What better recruiting agent could the National Front want for urging the people of Brierley Hill to join our Party? – Surely 500 screaming Asians marching down your High Street will take some beating".

Three days prior to the march, Police contacted Mr. Anderson demanding yet more concessions. In the light of an Asian counter demonstration being led by the Bishop of Dudley, the police wanted to change our route, and our form up place, and our re-direction point. Despite the fact that all publicity advertising the march had stated the previous meeting point, in the interests of avoiding a march ban and attempting to make sure the event took place, the National Front agreed to police requests.

On Good Friday, just 24 before the march, Police again contacted Mr. Anderson, informing him that the march route had been changed yet again, this time moved away from the town centre, and shortened to less than a mile. The reasons given were that *"this was in the interests of keeping good relations with the businesses and traders of Brierley Hill"*.

So what was the outcome of the day's events. The National Front held a 15 minute march and a 20 minute rally in the back streets of Brierley Hill. The Asian march led by the Biship of Dudley marched through the main street of Brierley Hill despite the fact that the NF march application for the High Street had been placed 14 days before the Asians placed theirs, and despite alleged police concern about maintaining good relations with the traders of Brierley Hill!

GIVING IN

The message given by the government and the Police is quite clear. You can be a law-abiding, democratic, patriotic political party that fights elections to win popular support, and follows all the requirements asked to be able to express its political opinions on the streets of Britain, but your rights are put behind the strident objections of an unruly mob of foreigners led by a political bishop who want to deny freedom of speech to that British political party.

That is giving in to mob rule, giving in to the rule of the street thug, giving in to those with the loudest voices in society.

WORTHWHILE

Saturday 18th April was a bad day for freedom of speech in Britain . . . yet not all was lost for the NF. Three weeks of publicity advertising the march created a lot of interest in the National Front, everyone in the West Midlands knew the National Front was marching on the theme of 'British Jobs for British Workers', a belief very close to the hearts of all West Midlanders, and, as always publicity in the press led to inquiries about NF policies which led to new members.

Andrew Brons got the biggest cheer of the rally and bought smiles to the faces of the Police in attendance when he told those present, *"What better recruiting agent could the National Front want for urging the people of Brierley Hill to join our party – Surely, 500 screaming Asians marching down your high street will take some beating!"*.

IT'S SUCH A GOOD EXCUSE YOU SEE!

VICIOUS THUGS are walking scot free from British courts, laughing at so-called British justice as they use the excuse *Subjected to Racial Abuse* as the reason for their crime.

Like *'the Crime of Passion'* judges are ignoring the laws of the land when the defendants claim they have been racially abused.

Lenford Reid, 24 of Park Street, Bath had hit Michael MacKenzie over the head with an iron bar then smashed a beer glass into his face outside a pub in the city. But Bath magistrates let Reid off with a suspended sentence after it was revealed that Mackenzie had racially abused the defendant.

45 YEARS ON —STILL INFLICTING PAIN

■ *British Prisoners of War. Then it was bare-faced Japanese cruelty. Today it is Japanese imports that are inflicting pain on the unemployed British worker.*

The Truth in Black & White

THIS NEWS report appeared in *The Times* during March.

Although the article is factual to a point it only presents half the truth — it is literally a half-truth. The facts which *The Times* chose to ignore are that all the *"youths"* who attacked the pub, and the *"youth"* who stabbed the prison officer to death, are black. All the victims are white. Furthermore, although the local police were desperately trying to play down the racial connection, it seems likely that the attack on the all-white public house *was* racially motivated.

The racial connection seems even more likely when one recalls that Terry May, a white youngster, was stabbed to death at a public house in the same area of Thornton Heath a few years ago. His attackers were West Indians. In the words of witnesses to Terry May's murder *"he just happened to be in the wrong place at the wrong time".*

In March, Ian Pooley, the 23 year-old prison officer, also just happened to be a white person in the wrong place at the wrong time. Regardless of whether *The Times* prefers to ignore this unpleasant fact it is, nonetheless, the truth. The plain truth in black and white.

Off-duty warder murdered

By David Sapsted

An off-duty prison officer was stabbed to death and two other officers and a policeman were knifed in a clash with youths outside a south London public house early yesterday.

Mr Ian Pooley, aged 23, a prison officer at Brixton prison, who had earlier taken part in a charity boxing match at the public house, died almost immediately after being stabbed through the heart.

A colleague, Mr Frank McKeown, aged 28, was last night in serious condition at Mayday Hospital, Thornton Heath, with a stomach wound. A third colleague, Mr Nigel Enoch, aged 26, received minor stomach wounds.

Police Constable Nigel Hardie, aged 32, based at Norbury Police Station, was on routine patrol when he gave chase to one youth. He received a minor stab wound to the neck.

Det Supt Bob Chapman, leading the murder investigation, said that the prison officers had been at a boxing match between warders and the Army at the Prince of Wales public house in Parchmore Road, Thornton Heath.

The warders went outside when a window at the public house was smashed just before 1am by a gang of five young men. "It was just a case of mindless vandalism that developed into a stabbing," Mr Chapman said.

One of the gang was chased by warders. He got away after slashing at them with a knife but was then tackled by PC Hardie.

Last night, a man was being questioned by police.

SABRE-RATTLING TO SAVE THE CITY

But Thatcher doesn't give a damn about the Destruction of British Industry

THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT is scared of acting against the flood of Japanese imports destroying our industries — not scared of the reaction of Japanese companies, but scared of the financial institutions in the City of London.

For the last ten years the trickle of Japanese imports has been growing into a torrent, last year Japan exported £3,700 million more to Britain than we exported to them. Now imagine how many jobs would be created if we clamped down on these imports.

The Japanese put up every conceivable barrier to prevent our goods being made available to the Japanese public, so there would seem to be little problem in erecting similar barriers to safeguard British jobs.

Maggie Thatcher and her cabinet poodles are sabre rattling and may well extract a few concessions from the Japanese — perhaps reducing the trade deficit to £3,600 million — but if it comes to the crunch she will do nothing, because she has been told she must not act.

The top boys in the City of London have thrown up their hands in horror at the prospect of a possible trade war. Such a war would undoubtedly be beneficial to British workers but it would be extremely bad news for the big financial institutions for two reasons.

Firstly it is the City of London which finances most of Britain's international trade — taking their large slice of course. But secondly, and more importantly, the City does not want the 29 Japanese banks who have major branches in London to leave, taking with them their huge funds, such a move would be a blow to the prestige of 'The City'.

This brings us to the real reason why the whole issue of Japanese imports has come to the fore. It has nothing to do with the catastrophic loss of jobs in Britain. It has suddenly sprung into the limelight because the Japanese have taken their protectionism one step too far, they have actually been trying to prevent outside multinationals from buying their way into Japanese firms. Such a move, if copied by other countries, would completely undermine the system whereby huge sums of money flow freely around the world at the behest of the finance houses. As soon as the Japanese tow the line on this issue then they will be allowed to continue exporting their radios, cars, televisions, computers, etc. to Britain and other European countries.

Mrs Thatcher will continue her sabre rattling until this is achieved and then she will be quietly 'advised' to put it a way. British workers will still not get jobs, but she will have safeguarded her friends in 'The City'.

'FLEE ENTELPLISE'

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2) Producing a bulletin
3) The Branch Meeting

All three in a binder £2.75.

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Bob Jones INVESTIGATES

DURING THE last week of March, I visited a supporter of the National Front who works in the laundry at East Birmingham Hospital.

■ During my visit, she told me a few things about the running of the hospital that have been suppressed by the media and the hospital administration, to prevent the patients and public getting alarmed.

■ One story was about nurses and porters who are near to strike action owing to having to deal with AIDS patients. There were ten AIDS patients of whom two have now died. Porters were told to remove the bodies without them being sealed in plastic bags. The most disturbing revelation is that a young nurse has contracted AIDS after cutting her hand on a needle that she had used on an AIDS patient. **This has not been reported in the papers and this wall of silence has outraged the nursing staff.**

■ In another incident, a porter who was removing laundry bags picked one up and it fell open. The remains of an aborted child was spilled all over the floor in a corridor.

■ She told me how babies nappies and wet blankets are washed with tea towels and hand towels, and when they come out of the wash they are still dirty.

■ She told me that if she had to go into hospital, as a patient, she would take all her own towels and cutlery as the hospital's are all filthy.

■ Birmingham National Front demands that these incidents in East Birmingham Hospital be investigated and changes be made.

FOCUS ON THE SOUTH WEST

GOOD ORGANISATION AND TOTAL COMMITMENT

■ ***Michael Kingston NF Prospective Parliamentary Candidate for Torbay and Mark Cotterill (right) NF South-West Regional Organiser.***

MARK COTTERILL the National Front's South-West Regional Organiser must be very satisfied with the progress made in his region over the last two years.

When he took over the job the NF was literally dead in Devon and Cornwall. Just a handful of isolated members, no activities, no meetings, no publicity and no hope for the Party in the future.

Now that has all changed. Thanks to the tireless work of Mark Cotterill the NF is firmly on the map in the South-West with weekly publicity in local papers, meetings in different towns in Devon, a new branch set up in West Cornwall, regular papersales and leafletting, and for the first time since 1979 the NF are putting up a candidate in the local council elections with Richard Earnshaw fighting Torbay's Coverdale Ward.

Last month Bristol business man and Cambridge University graduate, Michael Kingston was selected from a short-list of four as the Prospective Parliamentary Candidate for Torbay. Further proof of the growth and good organisation of the Party in the South-West and good organisation is why the NF has grown.

Mark Cotterill plays by the book, if a NF paper comes out on the first of the month then he wants his papers then. Many a time have the *FLAG* and *Vangaurd* offices had a roasting from Mark for the late arrival of his literature.But that is the way things should be. Total commitment and good organ isation are all that is required to create a successful region of the National Front.

ON THE FIRST PLANE HOME

SEVENTEEN PEOPLE from the Broadwater Farm Estate are walking the streets of Britain totally free despite the fact that they took part in the horrific slaughter of P.C.Blakelock.

Tottenham Police know the identity of these people but they say they cannot act because their hands are tied. Witnesses have changed their evidence following intimidation from gangs on the Estate and the Police hold little hope of the murderers ever seeing justice.

The National Front cannot pledge to bring these murderers to court. But what we can promise is that a National Front Government would guarantee that they were on the first available plane back to their own country.

WHOSE PORTRAIT IS THAT ?
IT'S THAT OF A BLACK YOUTH FROM BROAD WATER FARM.
SUCH EXCELLENT FRAMING...WHO DID IT ?
THE POLICE AND THE JUDGE SAID IT WILL BE IN THE PRISON GALLERY FOR AT LEAST 30YRS
WHOW! THOSE GUYS ARE REALLY GOOD AT FRAMING.

■ ***The Voice of the West Indian Community,*** *The Caribbean Times* ***complains, in cartoon form, about the verdict passed on Winston Silcott. Doesn't it just sum up the attitude of Britain's Coloured Community. – Dare one ask where were the condolences for the family of Keith Blakelock?***

NATIONAL FRONT

NF MEETING IN HARROW

ON THURSDAY April 9th the first meeting of the Harrow branch of the National Front took place at Harrow-on-the-Hill.

Forty local members turned up to hear speeches by NF National Activities Organiser, Ian Anderson, and Chairman of the NF Education and Training Dept., Steve Brady.

A committee was elected including Paul Smith as Organiser and Gary Stevens as Treasurer.

This is the first time there has been a meeting of the National Front in Harrow since 1979 and it's an indication of the resurgence of the NF that a unit has been launched in this area.

FIGHTING BACK FOR BRITAIN

ARE YOU SUPPORTING YOUR LOCAL NATIONAL FRONT BRANCH?

Why not drop them a line and see if they need any help with running the branch.

They'll be pleased to hear from you and can let you know about all the NF's meetings and activities!

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JOIN US IN OUR BATTLE TO WIN BACK OUR COUNTRY!

The FLAG

P.O.Box 230, Worthing, Sussex BN14 8EG.

EDITOR: Martin Wingfield.
DEPUTY EDITOR: Ian Anderson.

EDITORIAL **No.8. MAY 1987.**

SOMETIMES WE THINK that we in the National Front are the only people to realise the lunacy of Britain's Multi-Racial Society.

How many times have we shaken our heads in disbelief at the legislation that has been passed that gags British people yet gives privileges to West Indians, Africans, Indians and Pakistanis at present living in our country.

Panorama, BBC 1 13th April 9.30pm, gave a glimmer of hope to the beleaguered members of the National Front. A glimmer of hope that we are not totally isolated in our views about coloured immigration.

The programme was about policing in Wolverhampton and the scene was a classroom at Wolverhampton Police Station. The 'pupils' were policemen and the 'teacher' was a black vicar. It was a *Racism Awareness* course and the 'teacher' was explaining to the 'pupils' how to handle incidents where coloured immigrants were involved.

SHARING HIS HAPINESS

He explained that if the police should receive a complaint from a white family about a black person playing a radio too loud, the police must go to that white family and explain that the black person, by playing his radio loudly, is only sharing his happiness with that white family. He plays his music loudly because he is in a good mood and he wants others in a good mood as well!

That this *Racism Awareness* teacher gets £16,000 a year to spout such drivel is beside the point.

What is the point, and what must give NF members everywhere heart to carry on the struggle, was the look on those policemen's faces as they listened to this 'teacher'. As the camera panned those faces their expression gave away their feelings. They knew what they were being told was drivel and that these courses designed to brainwash our policemen were being treated with the contempt they deserve.

There is no doubt that the views of those policemen reflect the views of the majority of British people. They are aware what is happening in our country and regard it with the same abhorrence as any National Front member.

So why don't they join us?

They don't join us because we haven't got our act together. At the moment, in the eyes of the public we are irrelevant. They don't believe we can effect the situation. And to a certain extent they are right. To be brutally frank at present in the majority of areas of Britain we are irrelevant.

To change that state of affairs is down to us. On this page is a report on the growth of the Party in the South West. The success of the NF in that area is down to good organisation and total commitment. Qualities that should be instilled in all branches throughout the country.

Over the next five years the NF must become a relevant force in British politics. The success or failure of our Party, of our Country and of our Race depends on branches becoming well organised and part of local politics in their area.

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THE TED BUDDEN COLUMN

CRIME WAVE

THE REVELATION that Tory M.P.s Eric Cockeram and Keith Best made illegal multiple applications for British Telecom shares has caused alarm in police circles already deeply concerned about the rising tide of crime in the Conservative Party.

Although denying that Westminster has become a police no-go area, a senior police officer admitted last night that the situation was getting out of control.

"We just don't know how to handle the problem" he said, *"These young people, some of them just innocent country lawyers, come here and get involved with bad company – hard-bitten con artists like Neil(Little Peanuts) Kinnock, Dennis (The Roach) Healey, Maggie (Iron Moll) Thatcher, Nigel (The Rabbi) Lawson and the rest of a real bad lot – who make them think that dishonesty pays. They also live in an atmosphere of perversion where people called 'Whips' force them to take part in midnight voting orgies.*

"They mix with people who make millions in minutes out of thin air while they have to make do with measly tax-free perks. This gives them a feeling of inner-City (of London) deprivation. They feel alienated from the rest of the country and believe (correctly) that they're despised by everyone. They suffer from bad housing (nowhere to sit) and under-employment, and we all know what the Devil finds for idle hands.

"The only solution as I see it, is more, and better paid, senior police officers"

Now for my part, I can't help feeling that Cockeram and Best have been just a little unlucky. After all, the Government did invite the whole nation to loot the public purse and surely leading pirates have always been entitled to expect a bigger share of the loot than the rest of the motley crew.

I know that many think that Messrs. Cockeram and Best have tarnished the honour of the Conservative Party by failing to do what any self-respecting Tory would — give a false name.

However, I think that being forced to resign is a harsh punishment. After all, Mrs Thatcher has always said that strong family discipline is the answer to crime. Maybe a good spanking would fit the bill?

On second thoughts, though, that might actually swell the Tory crime wave.

No, Not That!

THE DISCOVERY that an entrepeneur employed in the Irish Embassy in London has been selling Irish passports wholesale to Lybians, Egyptians or, in fact, just about anyone with enough money, has caused quite a stir in the proud potato republic.

Irish officials are said to be searching the files to hunt out bogus paddies. No Abdul O'Hamid or Ali McBongo will escape the eagle eyes for, it is said, they will be paying special attention to all those who don't have Irish names.

I sincerely hope that this does not mean that Bob Geldof will be declared a stateless person. He might have to apply for British citizenship and, as one who finds Sir Scruffbag a pain in the neck as well as the eardrums, I earnestly beg them to leave well alone.

Just Like Neil

THE LABOUR Party campaign to effectively defranchise the British by enlisting the support of coloured colonisers in Britain has given a bizarre twist to a party that becomes weirder by the minute.

The colonisers have now decided to enrich the culture of the Labour Party by forming 'black sections', some of whom want to distance themselves from Messrs. Kinnock, Healey, Hattersley and Co., although I don't suppose any reasonable person will blame them for that. However, it seems that Neil is displeased.

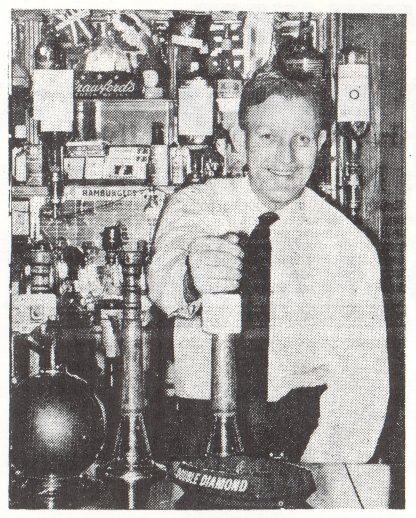
The odd thing is that these 'black sections' are composed not only of West Indians but of Indians and Pakistanis and, who knows, possibly Eskimos. Since the Asians would most certainly not normally describe themselves as black, surely *'Somewhat Sooty Sections'* would be a more appropriate designation.

It is, furthermore, difficult to see just what these motley colonisers have in common. In every state in East Africa, in Madagascar, in Mauritius, Asian settlers have been violently attacked by Africans who regard them as ruthless exploiters. In Fiji, the black Melanesians are in open conflict with Asian settlers who now dominate their country. Everywhere in the world the sole mutuality between blacks and Asians is a cordial hatred of each others guts.

So just how do Labour's 'black sections' make common cause? Why, it's quite simple — by mutual hostility to the indigenous British. They are not 'black sections' but anti-white sections.

Which makes them mainstream Labour, just like Neil. So what's he making all the fuss about?

Brewers should stick to brewing and let the landlords own the pubs



OUT OF about 78,000 pubs in Britain, some 5,000 are owned by Courage which has just been taken over by Australian brewing conglomerate Elders. Elders have now announced that they intend to sell these pubs as a block rather than to the individual tenants.

Elders have approached financial institutions in 'The City of London' including Hoare Govett and Credit Suisse Boston, who have placed a value of around £1,000 million on these properties or about £200,000 on each pub.

At this sort of price most tenants would find it beyond their means to buy these pubs, and whoever ends up owning them will be forced to put up prices to pay the enormous interest such a price tag will result in.

The National Front believes that the whole concept of tenanted pubs is wrong — the people who work in and manage a pub should be encouraged to own the pub — and it should be made available at a sensible price — not these grossly inflated 'City' prices. Breweries should stick to brewing, leaving pub landlords to choose which beers to stock.

Tunnel Running into Trouble

by Ian Anderson

A FEW MONTHS ago we predicted that the Eurotunnel was going to hit further financial difficulties. Well we take great pleasure in saying that we told you so.

The Chairman of the Eurotunnel project, Lord Pennock is resigning — and apparently no one wants the job: Sir Michael Edwards formerly of BL has turned it down; Sir Jeffrey Stirling, Chairman of P&O has turned it down; Sir John Harvey-Jones of ICI turned it down and now even Mrs Thatcher's Yank hatchet man Ian Macgregor has said no!

Not only has Macgregor turned it down he also commented, *"I would question whether the Eurotunnel can be financed without public(i.e.government) support. I do not think it is a practical solution".*

The project is estimated to need £5,000 million, and a sum of £750 million has to be raised this summer. A £10 million advertising budget has been set out, so watch for inane adverts along the lines of the British Gas, British Airways, etc ones. However despite his hard sell it looks decidedly questionable as to whether even the City institutions will want to cough up this sort of money.

Of course Mrs Thatcher is still in favour of it — presumably she's hoping it will be named after her — after all, look what it will do for Britain:-

- ***Almost certainly bring in rabies.***
- ***Make drug trafficking much easier.***
- ***Allow imports to flood even more easily into Britain destroying jobs.***
- ***Vandalise our Kent countryside and destroy its rural communities.***

. . . and all this for just £5,000 million.

NATIONAL FRONT

Sinking Local Roots on Tyneside

THE FIRST meeting of Newcastle National Front after the local branch joined the Confederacy of Branches was a resounding success.

The turn-out was higher than expected and morale was very good as NF Branch Development Officer, Joe Pearce, made a speech on the subject of racial differences and their effect on community relations.

In fact, the successful meeting was only the culmination of the Branch's efforts in recent months, a period in which Newcastle managed to double their order of *The FLAG*.

STICKER MACHINE

Besides the dramatic increase in the number of copies of *The FLAG* being sold on Tyneside, the Branch has also managed to acquire a sticker machine with which local stickers can be produced.

"That's one asset under our belt", said John Harwood, the local Branch Organiser, who seems very confident about the future. He told The FLAG: "I was very pleased with the size of the collection at the meeting because money raised now will buy things for the local Branch instead of going to Head Office. We aim to buy a branch minibus and badge-making machine in the near future".

"Knowing that money raised in Newcastle will stay in Newcastle is an added incentive to go out door-to-door selling and the like".

USED LOCALLY

Rob Smith, Branch Chairman, is quick to agree with John Harwood's views: *"I think the idea of giving power to the branches is excellent, because now all money for memberships goes straight into branch funds where it can be used locally".*

Amongst other projects which Newcastle branch are keen to instigate are plans to produced localised leaflets on shipbuilding for the Wallsend and Walker areas.

FIGHTING BACK FOR BRITAIN

GENERAL ELECTION
COMPETITION

ETHNIC GROVELLER 1987

WIN £5.00 and a free subscription to *The FLAG* by entering our special General Election — Ethnic Groveller of the year competition.

Over the next month politicians of all parties will be falling over themselves and getting themselves in all-manner of strange positions just to curry favour with Britain's coloured immigrants. You know the sort of thing, wearing turbans, sitting crossed-legged on the floor, break-dancing and the odd limbo.

We want you to send us the best picture you see of ethnic grovelling together with your own made-up picture caption ridiculing the ethnic grovelling in the picture.

The competition is open till the date of the General Election, in the event of the same picture being sent in by more than one person the caption will decide the winner. The Editor's decision is final.

Send your enteries to *The FLAG*, P.O.Box 230, Worthing,

NATIONAL FRONT
SOCIAL CLUB NEWS

Caralyn's getting spliced

CARALYN GILES, the Secretary of Brighton National Front gets married on Saturday May 30th to Brighton National Front Organiser, Ian Taylor.

Caralyn, who joined the Front in 1977 has been a tireless worker for the Party over the last ten years. Seldom has she missed a National Activitity and locally she has always been involved in the affairs of the Brighton Branch from standing as a candidate in local elections to preparing the food for branch socials.

Fiance, Ian Taylor joined the NF in 1981 and was organiser of the Branch during its most successful period in 1982. At the beginning of the year he was again elected to the post.

The Wedding Day promises to be a real National Front affair, with the best man, Chairman of the NF Steering Committee, Martin Wingfield, and Front members from all over the country attending.

On behalf of the National Front Social Club we wish Caralyn and Ian *All the very best.*

■ ***Multi-lingual secretary and part-time actress Caralyn Giles. At present she is appearing in 'Knightsbridge' with the Partridge Green Players.***

Letters

Embarrassed

Dear Sir,

I write to register a complaint about the front page feature of the last issue of ***The Flag****.*

As a member of the National Front speaking frankly, I found the "What the National Front says" piece to be downright embarrassing. Other members in my area also described it as 'terrible' and 'negative'. Supporting a policy of birching and the overall tone of the article came over as the rantings of a reactionary Tory colonel. I thought the National Front had grown out of its 'whip'em and flog 'em' mentality?

Mr. J. Griffiths,
Treharris,
Glamorgan.

Ed: *The FLAG* is the newspaper of the National Front. The opinions expressed in campaigning articles such as the front page feature of the last issue are the policies of the National Front. "What the National Front says" came word for word from the 1983 General Election manifesto, the 'bible' of all *FLAG* reporters.

All NF members, through their branches, are entitled to propose motions and policy changes at the National Front Annual General Meeting in October, I hope Mr Griffiths will use this opportunity to travel to London and put his arguments to the membership.

Feeling Guilty

Dear Friends,

I am not a member of the National Front although I support the policies of the NF and vote NF when I am able.

After reading 'Against all odds' in the last issue of ***The FLAG*** *I felt I must write to pledge my support. So many people support you but are not yet prepared to make a commitment to help your party. Yet when I read how your small numbers carry on on the fight against such an all-powerful and threatening enemy I feel guilty that I am not there with you or at least not doing more in my own area.*

Please National Front, keep that patriotic flame flickering, I know one day all your efforts on behalf of the British people will be rewarded.

Mrs Sally Carpenter,
Folkestone,
Kent.

Worthwhile

Dear Sir,

Why don't your papersellers have collecting tins to ask those who buy the papers to contribute to the General Election fund?

I'm certain at places like Brick Lane this exercise would be well worthwhile.

Les Payne,
Hackney,
London.

NF Viewpoint

Dear Editor,

Last Thursday I got on our local GWR radio station speaking out in support of that National Front and stating NF policy on immigration into this country.

Even though Dave Barrett, the presenter of the programme started the usual slagging off of the NF, I got my points across to him enough for him to defend them as good points against some of the opposition I got afterwards.

A Labour Party official came on with the usual objections to the National Front viewpoint being heard on the radio. Not one person who came on the programme opposing me could come up with a substantial argument against the points I made – It says it all.

A Bristol NF member Andy Andrews also got on the programme the same night just before me, introducing the subject of immigration and repatriation from the Cardboard City angle of how some of the British people have become dispossessed and are leaving places like London for Swindon, and even leaving the country because of multi-racialism.

A. Williams,
Bath,
Avon.

Appropriate

Dear Sir,

In the run up to the general election there are calls for tactical voting coming from certain quarters of political life. Such an idea is repugnant to anyone with principles or an ounce of loyalty; in other words tactical voting is most appropriate in national life as it stands!

Yet we can render tactical voting and the perceived 'need' for it redundant at a stroke and open up the possibility of nationalist M.P.'s at Westminster. The answer is the single transferable vote method of proportional representation.

In most general elections around half of those who vote elect no one. A majority of the 650 M.P.s elected in 1983 were opposed, in terms of numbers of votes cast, by a majority of those who voted in their constituencies.

The P.R. (S.T.V.) system would group several neighbouring single member constituencies together, in one multi-member constituency, electing say 5 M.P.s. Electors would vote numerically with a single but transferable vote.

Proportional representation would more accurately reflect the wishes of the voters; no bad thing surely?

Mr. G.Kemp.
Gosport,
HANTS.

FREEDOM BOOKS

100 QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ABOUT THE NATIONAL FRONT

by Ian Anderson

What is the NF? Who joins it? What does it do? What does it believe in? Why does it get such bad press coverage? Where does it gets its money from?

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MUSIC SCENE
with Bob Nash

Death Culture

BOY GEORGE has admitted that he is still addicted to Heroin despite all the holier-than-thou statements to the contrary.

Of course the downfall of a degenerate advocate of multi-racialism is of no loss, however it is a fact of life that such figures in the music world as Boy George are looked up to as influential individuals by many young people in our society.

Left-wing personalities, used the music scene during the course of last year to promote an anti-heroin campaign; yet these people were the same ones who a year earlier were supporting the 'legalise cannabis' lobby — the soft drug which has started many tens of thousands on the road to hard drugs.

How refreshing it is then, to see a group such as *Iron Maiden* taking a more responsible attitude to the issue.

On the eve of their last British Tour without the press ballyhoo that usually accompanies such affairs, the group announced that they were totally opposed to the use of hard drugs and urged their fans not to take them. *Iron Maiden* then released a single *'Wasted Years'*. The group arranged that all royalties earned on this record should be donated to the anti-drug campaign.

The responsible attitude of Iron Maiden to their fans is an example other figures in the Music Business would do well to follow. By using their considerable influence *Iron Maiden* have caught the attention of thousands of young people. If more groups were to follow their example, it would prove a great blow against the power of the Barons of the parasitical hard-drug rackets who plague our society.

SKREWDRIVER
-The First 10 Years

A new book, published to celebrate the tenth aniversary of Britain's premier Nationalist rock band.

It has been written by NF Branch Development Officer, Joe Pearce, who used hours of taped interviews with Skrewdriver vocalist Ian Stuart, to get the source material he needed. The book maps out Skrewdriver's chequered career, from the band's modest beginnings in Blackpool in 1977 to their international reputation in 1987.

£2.20 including postage

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FLAG SPORT

Pollution fears from Anglers

COMPLAINTS ABOUT river pollution by anglers have soared from 12,500 in 1981/2 to nearly 20,000 in 1985/6.

One of the chief sources of this pollution are chemical fertilizers used on farmland.

Peter Tombleson of the National Anglers Council said:

"We don't believe that the code of good agricultural practice which sets out how to avoid farm pollution is being followed. In our view there should be statutory regulations to deal with this under the Control of Pollution Act.

"On pollution from sewage works which are controlled by the water authorities you have the same organisation causing pollution and also monitoring it. Surely you can't have an organisation which is both judge and jury at the same time!"

FINE EXAMPLE

BORIS BECKER, the West German tennis star, has been living in Monaco and so is not liable to German military call-up.

However after a 'family council' Boris has *volunteered* to do his Military Service.

He will not have to give up his tennis as the West German Army looks after its sportsmen and is the country's biggest sponsor of top-level sportsmen.

What an excellent example and incentive for German youth.

GIVE OUR TENNIS PLAYERS THE COVERAGE THEY DESERVE

TEAMS FROM Heston and Telford will contest the final of the Mortgage Corporation Tennis League. This first competition has been a relative success despite the introduction of cheerleaders and incredible inane comperes.

One other major drawback has been the inclusion of a number of foreign players in the teams which detracts from its usefulness as a training exercise for Britain's up and coming tennis players.

What a shame that television coverage of tennis continues to be largely restricted to the strawberries and cream at Wimbledon, thus denying Britain's players the encouragement and the money which television coverage can guarantee.

TURNING POINT FOR RUGBY UNION

Professionalism approaches this shamateur sport!

RUGBY UNION IS on the move — the first World Cup is to be staged in Australia this year; 'loss of earnings' allowances are to be paid to international touring players; and the ban on teams touring South Africa has been lifted.

Yet despite these undoubtedly healthy changes the English Rugby Football Union has only reluctantly gone along with them. The 'loss of earnings' was pushed through by Australia with Welsh support with England against the idea but dead scared of splitting the international Board.

The I.B. meeting at the end of March announced that the *'rebel'* tour of South Africa by the New Zealand Cavaliers was a 'closed matter'. The English RFU reluctantly, and with bad grace, followed suit a week later.

Rugby Football in England has expanded its popularity largely despite the games ruling authorities rather than because of them. There is unfortunately an element within the RFU that would still like to keep rugby as an elitist sport played at top level only by those people who can afford to take time off work or whose firms use the presence of senior rugby players as an advertising gimmick.

GRAB AND KICK

At international level England's rugby record has become extremely variable, best exemplified by their performance this season. The unattractive and unproductive 'grab and kick' tactics of Captain, Richard Hill and Rob Andrew left England without a single try in their first three internationals in the five nations championship.

The inevitable frustration of the forwards at this waste of ball possession exploded at Cardiff in a flurry of fists.

With wholesale changes forced on the selectors, a new team emerged which performed magnificently to win the Culcutta Cup against Scotland.

As a result of this inconsistency over the years, the England RFU no longer has the 'clout' at international level it used to enjoy. The authorities of other countries have become the new pace-setters.

INDECISION

At local level the sport is extremely healthy, schools rugby still enjoys great popularity despite the general decline in school sports. However at national level there is indecision and uncertainty coupled with a dislike of anything that smacks of professionalism and the historic 'bete noir' Rugby League.

Rugby Union may well be reaching a turning point:- the introduction of league tables, a World Cup, international sevens competitions - could professionalism be approaching this currently totally shamateur sport?

British Sponsorship for British Teams

ENGLAND'S HOCKEY team has been surprising the rest of the world by their sudden rise over the last year culminating in winning the silver medal in the Hockey World Cup.

This has resulted in an upsurge of interest in the sport generally in Britain. What a shame it is then that the Inter-City Championship is going to be sponsored for the next three years by Lada Cars — the Polish Communist firm. With Poland still under effectively military dictatorship — under the 'guidance' of the USSR is it really right for the Hockey Association to accept such sponsorship. Couldn't they have found a British sponsor for such an event?

Can you imagine the outcry if the sponsorship had been by a South African firm? As it is there has been deafening silence from the media. Presumably it is alright to lock up and occasionally shoot your own people as long as you don't discriminate on the grounds of Race!

UNLUCKY JIMMY

WHILE THE Bank Holiday crowds were making their way home on Easter Money, followers of *The FLAG's* Racing tips were crammed into smokey betting offices, eyes glued to the screens searching for the result of the 4 o'clock at Huntingdon.

***Pridden Jimmy*, one of the three selections for April was competing in a three mile chase over that course. The Bank Holiday Bookie-bashing bonanza failed to materialise, but only just! *Pridden Jimmy* at the massive price of 25-1 came in third, handsomely rewarding each-way support behind Nicky's Joy.**

The evidence over the last two months cannot be questioned. *FLAG* horse racing selections are the business, and what's more they're the business at big prices!

Our Derby advice is *REFERENCE POINT* from Henry Cecil's stable. This one is something special and it will take a good one to beat it.

You won't break the bank with Reference Point but two others to watch for in May are Johnson Houghton's *FORT WAPPING* in a 1m 1f. 3 year-old maiden stakes and Richard Hannon's 2 year-old *RUMTREE* who had a nice introduction at Warwick at the end of last month.

Joe Pearce Reviews the 1987 English Soccer Season.

▪ *Liverpool and Everton battling for league honours.*

AS THE ENGLISH football league season draws to a close, **Liverpool** and **Everton** are once again battling it out for the Championship.

Yet Liverpool and Everton have something in common besides the fact that both teams come from Merseyside. They both have first teams squads comprised entirely of white players.

Furthermore, Liverpool's phenomenal success story over the last twenty years nails the lie that English soccer clubs need blacks to succeed. In those twenty years there has been an almost total absence of coloured players in Liverpool's squad, making them the whitest as well as the most successful team in the English First Division.

Another team which has taken a lot of stick are **Leeds United**. Leeds have been crucified by the press and criticised by black players because of the whiteness of their team and the patriotic nature of their supporters. Nonetheless, the team from Elland Road silenced their critics by getting as far as the semi-finals of the F.A.Cup, a proud achievement for a second division team.

In fact, Leeds were discriminated against by the Football Association in the run-up to their semi-final tie with **Coventry City** at Hillsborough. The FA issued 29,000 tickets to Coventry while Leeds were only issued with 22,000. This in spite of the fact that Leeds have a far larger potential support. The result was that Coventry City returned 500 tickets they couldn't sell while Leeds fans were crushed in the rush to secure tickets at Elland Road.

A number of Leeds supporters were taken to hospital after being crushed in the rush outside the club's ground. Afterwards, tickets were changing hands on the black market for many times their retail price. All because the patriotic beliefs of Leeds United supporters have made them enemies in the higher ranks of the FA.

FLAG SPORT

COMMENT

NO BRITISH person who watched the Grand National could fail to have been appalled by the death of Dark Ivy.

The television coverage spared viewers no detail as the superb grey racing machine became a lifeless carcass in seconds after a crashing fall at Beecher's Brook. The death of Dark Ivy was instant, he was dead before he touched the ground, his neck broken, there was no writhing on the ground in agony, at least the end for Dark Ivy was quick and hopefully painless.

With such a public end to the career and life of a race horse it was inevitable that the cries for a ban on Steeplechasing and the National especially would be particularly vociferous.

FLAG Sport has this to say. Racehorses love racing and steeplechasers love jumping. Let there be no doubt of this. Just go to a jump meeting and wait at the start and watch the horses. They're loving every minute of it. Jumping is their life, they thrive on it. Horses that don't enjoy it simply don't do it. No one is going to keep a horse in training who doesn't try his best at racing. Horses who don't like racing are soon retired.

None of this helps Dark Ivy. But without the sport of Steeplechasing, Dark Ivy wouldn't have been born. He was bred for the sole purpose of jumping fences, something, until the Grand National, he had done with exceptional skill.

Printed and published by FLAG Newspapers, P.O.Box 230, Worthing, West Sussex BN14 8EG.